

ABSTRACT

The invention provides compositions and methods for releasing and for isolating nucleic acids from biological samples, preferably from whole tissue, using cationic surfactants and proteases. The surfactant-protease combinations, when used with 5 whole tissue, macerate the tissue, lyse individual cells, release nucleic acids, and inactivate nucleases. Kits for isolating nucleic acids from biological samples, particularly from whole tissue, are also provided.

10

100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT
& DUNNER, L.L.P.
STANFORD RESEARCH PARK
700 HANSEN WAY
PALO ALTO, CALIF. 94304
650-849-6600